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1. A phosphorus-containing flame-retardant hardener having a formula selecting from the group consisting of (A) to (I):

$$HO \xrightarrow{(Q)_1} X \xrightarrow{(Q)_m} OH \xrightarrow{(Q)_i(H)_{2,i}N} -X \xrightarrow{(B)} N(H)_{2,i}(Q)$$

$$(Q)_{i}(H)_{2:i}N \longrightarrow N(H)_{2:j}(Q)_{j}$$

$$(Q)_{i}(H)_{2:i}N - C = N - C = N$$

$$(Q)_{i}(H)_{2:i}N - C = N - C = N$$

$$(D)$$

NH₂ H₂N-C-NH-C=NH Q' Q' (E)

NH || H<sub>2</sub>N-C-NH-C=NH Q' (F)

15 Z N N N N (H)<sub>2-j</sub>(C

 $N(H)_{2:j}(Q')_{j}$   $(Q')_{i}(H)_{2:j}N-C=N-C\equiv N$  (H)

(G)

## wherein

I and m independently are 0, 1 or 2, and I + m > 0; i and i independently are 0, 1 or 2, and 0 < i + j < 4; k is 0 or 1, and i + k < 3;

Z is  $-NH_2$ ,  $-CH_3$  or phenyl;

Q: 10

Q':

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R1, R2 independently are H, C1~C18 alkyl, C6~C18 aryl, C6~C18 substituted aryl, C6~C18 aryl methylene, or C6~C18 substituted aryl methylene;

$$Ar =$$
  $(R)n$   $(R)n$  or  $(R)n$ 

wherein R is C1-C4 alkyl or C6-C18 aryl; and n is an integer of 0 to 5.

2. The hardener according to claim 1, wherein the hardener has the

## formula (A).

3. The hardener according to claim 1, wherein the hardener has the formula (B).

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- 4. The hardener according to claim 1, wherein the hardener has the formula (C).
- 5. The hardener according to claim 1, wherein the hardener has theformula (D).
  - 6. The hardener according to claim 1, wherein the hardener has the formula (E) or (F).
- 7. The hardener according to claim 1, wherein the hardener has formula (G).
  - 8. The hardener according to claim 1, wherein the hardener has the formula (H) or (I).

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9. The hardener according to claim 1, wherein i and j are 0 or 1, when the hardener has a formula selected from the group consisting of (B), (C), (D), (G) and (H).

- 10. The hardener according to claim 8, wherein k is 0, when the hardener has the formula (I).
  - 11. The hardener according to claim 4, wherein Z is  $-NH_2$ .
  - 12. The hardener according to claim 7, wherein Z is -NH<sub>2</sub>.
- 13. The hardener according to claim 2, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are hydrogen, and n is 0.

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- 14. The hardener according to claim 3, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are hydrogen, and n is 0.
- 15. The hardener according to claim 4, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are 15 hydrogen, and n is 0.
  - 16. The hardener according to claim 5, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are hydrogen, and n is 0.
- 20 17. The hardener according to claim 13, wherein Ar is phenoxy.
  - 18. The hardener according to claim 14, wherein Ar is phenoxy.
  - 19. The hardener according to claim 15, wherein Ar is phenoxy.

- 20. The hardener according to claim 16, wherein Ar is phenoxy.
- 21. The hardener according to claim 6, wherein Ar is phenyl.
- 5 22. The hardener according to claim 7, wherein Ar is phenyl.
  - 23. The hardener according to claim 8, wherein Ar is phenyl.
  - 24. The hardener according to claim 2, wherein X is

25. The hardener according to claim 3, wherein X is -CH<sub>2</sub>- or

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26. A phosphorus-containing frame-retardant advanced epoxy resin and cured epoxy resin having the following formula (J):

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wherein

$$0 < h < 10$$
;

T = L or M, wherein

the formula (J) represents the advanced epoxy resin, when T = L; and the formula (J) represents the cured epoxy resin, when T = M;

A' is

wherein I and m are independently are 0, 1 or 2, and I + m > 0;

25 wherein

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> independently are H, C1~C18 alkyl, C6~C18 aryl, C6~C18 substituted aryl, C6~C18 aryl methylene, or C6~C18 substituted aryl methylene;

wherein R is C1-C4 alkyl or C6-C18 aryl; and n is an integer of 0 to 5;

## 5 Epis

$$Y = -CH_2 - CH_3 - CH$$

or a phenol-aldehyde novolac epoxy resin backbone, and when Ep is the phenol-aldehyde novolac epoxy resin backbone, the flame-retardant advanced epoxy resin and the cured epoxy resin represented by the formula (J) is prepared by reacting a phosphorus-containing flame-retardant hardener having the following formula (A) with a phenol-aldehyde novolac epoxy resin having the following formula (II)

HO  $\longrightarrow$  X  $\longrightarrow$ 

wherein Q, X, I and m are defined as above;

wherein R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, or -CH<sub>3</sub>, and g is an integer of 1-6.

- 27. The phosphorus-containing frame-retardant advanced epoxy resin and cured epoxy resin according to claim 26, wherein Ep in the formula (J)
- 5 is

- 28. The phosphorus-containing frame-retardant advanced epoxy resin and cured epoxy resin according to claim 26, wherein Ep in the formula (J) is the phenol-aldehyde novolac epoxy resin backbone, wherein R³ in the phenol-aldehyde novolac epoxy resin (II) is -CH₃.
- 29. The phosphorus-containing frame-retardant advanced epoxy resin and cured epoxy resin according to claim 26, wherein R¹ and R² are 15 hydrogen, and n is 0.
  - 30. The phosphorus-containing frame-retardant advanced epoxy resin and cured epoxy resin according to claim 26, wherein X is

31. A flame-retardant epoxy resin having a formula selected from the group consisting of (EP-A) to (EP-I):

$$L'O \xrightarrow{(Q)_i} X \xrightarrow{(Q)_m} OL' \qquad (Q)_i(L')_{2-i}N \xrightarrow{A} X \xrightarrow{(EP-B)} N(L')_{2-i}(Q)_i$$

$$(Q)_{i}(L')_{2:i}N = (Q)_{i}(L')_{2:i}(Q)_{i} \qquad (Q)_{i}(L')_{2:i}N - C = N -$$

$$(Q')_{i}(L')_{2,i}N \xrightarrow{N} (L')_{2,j}(Q')_{j} , \qquad (Q')_{i}(L')_{2,i}N - C = N - C \equiv N$$

$$(EP-G) \qquad (EP-H)$$

$$NQ'$$
 $||$ 
 $(Q')_{i}(L')_{2:i}N-C-N(L')_{1:k}(Q')_{k}-C\equiv N$ 
 $(EP-I)$ 

25 wherein I, m, i, j, k, Z, X, Q and Q' are defined as in claim 1; and L' is

hydrogen or

, provided that at least two L' are L in each

formula.

- 5 32. The flame-retardant epoxy resin according to claim 31, wherein the flame retardant epoxy resin has the formula (EP-A).
  - 33. The flame-retardant epoxy resin according to claim 31, wherein the flame retardant epoxy resin has the formula (EP-B).

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- 34. The frame-retardant epoxy resin according to claim 32, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are hydrogen, and n is 0.
- 35. The frame-retardant epoxy resin according to claim 33, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are hydrogen, and n is 0.
  - 36. The frame-retardant epoxy resin according to claim 34, wherein X

is

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37. The frame-retardant epoxy resin according to claim 35, wherein X is  $-CH_2$ - or